

NOTE ON BISMUTH AS A TRYPANOCIDE

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The effect of bismuth in the form of soluble bismuth sodium tartrate in solutions of various strengths was tried on animals infected with *T. rhodesiense* and *T. brucei* (*Nagana ferox*) respectively.

Using this drug, the minimum lethal dose for healthy mice was found to be 0.047 grammes of bismuth, and for healthy guinea-pigs 0.062 grammes of bismuth per kilo body weight.

In animals which died after injection of bismuth sodium tartrate deposits of bismuth were found in all cases in the liver, frequently in the spleen, and less frequently in the kidneys.

T. rhodesiense.

The minimal lethal dose cleared the blood of trypanosomes in a mouse within twenty-four hours, but the animal died in two days. Any dose below this failed to clear the blood of trypanosomes.

T. brucei (*Nagana ferox*).

Although the drug cleared the blood of trypanosomes in guinea-pigs, yet relapses occurred in a few days, thus :—

Dose per kilo, body weight	Injected	Trypanosomes re-appeared
0.018	20.4.21	28.4.21
0.022	26.4.21	2.5.21
0.024	9.5.21	18.5.21
0.032	9.5.21	21.5.21

In no case was a cure obtained.

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